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### REMARKS

The original application was allowed in a first action allowance such that Applicants did not have an opportunity to amend the application in response to an office action. Accordingly, a Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith.

The amendments to the specification are provided to correct typographical and grammatical errors that were identified in the application during inventor review. The additional text and cited reference in the specification at page 24 is a correction of a fact that is well known to those in the field of support vector machines. This additional citation is supported by and referenced in the cited reference (Vapnik, *Statistical Learning Theory*) which is incorporated in the application by reference. No new matter is added by any of the foregoing amendments to the specification or claims.

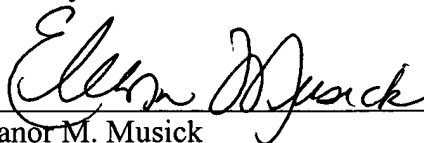
New independent claims 14 and 20 incorporate substantially the same elements as claim 1 but apply the method to processing of gene expression data and biological data, respectively. Accordingly, it is believed that, in view of the allowance of claims 1-10 in the original examination, all claims now submitted are allowable over the prior art.

Being filed herewith is an information disclosure statement.

Should the Examiner believe that prosecution of this application might be expedited by further discussion of the issues, he is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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